Persons killed due to wall collapse in North Delhi

728. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK:

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of persons were killed and many others injured as a result of wall collapse in North Delhi on the 25th January, 1987;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) whether any compensation has been paid to the next of kin of the deceased persons, and if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) and (b) On 25th January, 1987, due to roof collapse of a godown, situated in Village Bakoli in North Delhi, 10 persons were killed and 16 received injuries.

(c) The Lt. Governor, Delhi, has announced an ex-gratia of Rs. 10,000 each to the families of those, who have been killed and Rs. 2500/- each for those, who suffered injuries.

Pakistan Jails
Indian Nationals languishing in

729. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of Indian nationals who are languishing in Pakistani jails at present without any trial;

(b) whether the matter has been taken up with the Pakistan Government for their early release; and

(c) if so, what is the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) It is estimated that there are 703 Indian nationals including undertrials in Pakistani prisons covicted and those who have completed their sentences.

(b) and (c) Constant efforts are being made to repatriate all Indian prisoners from Pakistan. The Pakistan Government has been requested to release all Indian detainees, particularly those who have completed their sentences. On the 28th January this year, seven Indian prisoners were repatriated to India from Pakistan.

Visit to Bangladesh by the Minister of External Affairs

730. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he visited Bangladesh during the month of January, 1987;

(b) if so, the nature of discussion held with the Bangladesh authorities; and

(c) the decision, if any, arrived at?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) During my visit to Bangladesh, the entire range of India's relations with Bangladesh was reviewed and we agreed to cooperate to further strengthen and diversify our bilateral ties. On issues where there are some differences of perception, efforts will be continued to resolve them.

It was decided that the Indo-Bangladesh Joint Economic Commission will meet in the first half of 1987 at a mutually convenient date, that talks will be held earlier for the renewal of the Inland Water Transit Protocol. It was also agreed that all efforts will